

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A vertical take-off and landing vehicle, comprising:

~~a~~ an elongated fuselage formed with front and rear ends and opposite sides and having a longitudinal axis and a transverse axis;

at least one lift-producing propeller carried by said fuselage on each side of said transverse axis;

~~a compartment~~ pilot's cockpit formed in on one side of said fuselage between said lift-producing propellers, and laterally offset relative to one side of said longitudinal axis;

at least one payload bay formed in said fuselage between said lift-producing propellers and separately accessible from an opposite side of said ~~longitudinal axis fuselage~~ but wherein said at least one payload bay extends within said fuselage ~~to said one side of~~, across said longitudinal axis such that the pilot's compartment and at least one payload bay are asymmetrical with respect to the longitudinal axis; and

at least two engines, each capable of driving said lift-producing propellers.

7. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein said at least one payload bay includes a support for supporting at least a portion of the payload, externally of the fuselage.

8. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein at least one said payload bay includes a cover extendable between open and closed positions, and wherein, in said

open position, said cover provides support for at least a portion of the payload, externally of said fuselage.

9. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein said at least one payload bay includes at least one seat facing outwardly, perpendicular to said longitudinal axis.

10. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein a cover for said at least one payload bay is hinged on said one side of said ~~longitudinal axis~~ fuselage.

11. (New) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein the vehicle includes a flexible skirt extending below the fuselage enabling the vehicle to be used as a hovercraft for movement over ground or water.

12. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein a plurality of vanes extend across an inlet side of each lift producing propeller substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis, and including on either side of said longitudinal axis.

13. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein said ~~compartment is a pilot's compartment and said~~ at least one payload bay is a passenger compartment.